

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 175621
ORIGIN SCS-06

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2 COPIES, TREASURY, MR. SAENZ, ROOM 4313
-----109857 121842Z /11
R 121657Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE: ATF INVESTIGATION:
WEAPONS SMUGGLING CONSPIRACY

1. SPECIAL AGENTS WILLIAM B. PENTECOST AND RAFAEL A. MARTINEZ OF BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TABACCO AND FIREARMS OF DEPT OF TREASURY DESIRE TO PROCEED TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TO INTERVIEW TWO SUSPECTS OF AN ATF GUNSMUGGLING INVESTIGATION. AGENTS TENTATIVELY DESIRE TO PROCEED TO SANTO DOMINGO 7/17 AND STAY 3 TO 5 DAYS.

2. INDIVIDUALS AGENTS DESIRE TO SPEAK WITH ARE FELIX H. GONZALEZ AN ARGENTINIAN NATIONAL AND GERONIMO URENA TORRES, A DOMINICAN NATIONAL. BOTH ARE PRESENTLY INCARCERATED IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THERE ARE OUTSTANDING WARRANTS IN U.S. FOR THESE INDIVIDUALS. NEITHER GONZALEZ NOR TORRES HAVE BEEN CONTACTED IN ADVANCE AND ASKED WHETHER THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO SPEAK WITH ATF AGENTS. ATF DOES NOT REPEAT NOT
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REQUEST EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN APPROACHING THESE INDIVIDUALS AND ASKING WHETHER THEY WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION. AGENTS EXPECT TO WORK CLOSELY WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHEN THEY ARRIVE IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. ATF ADVISES THAT LOCAL INTERPOL CONTACT FORESEES NO DIFFICULTIES WITH RESPECT TO VISIT OF ATF AGENTS FOR PURPOSE SPECIFIED ABOVE.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO OBTAIN HOST GOVERNMENT CLEARANCE FOR ATF OFFICIALS. ALSO, PLEASE OBTAIN RESERVATIONS AT HOTEL NEAR EMBASSY, 2 MODERATELY PRICED SINGLES FROM 7/17 FOR FIVE DAYS.

4. NOTE 7/17 DATE IS CONTINGENT UPON OBTAINING APPROPRIATELY VISAED PASSPORTS AND YOUR CLEARANCE. IF AGENTS DO GO ON EXPECTED DATE THEY DO NOT EXPECT TO NEED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE BUT WILL MAKE CONTACT NONETHELESS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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